

UNCLASSIFIED

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

TELEGRAM

6/11/76

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3914
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1818

INDICATE
☐ COLLECT
☐ CHARGE TO

Refugees
POL 30
R

E.O. 11652:
TAGS:
SUBJECT:

FROM AmEmbassy BUENOS AIRES CLASSIFICATION [REDACTED]

GDS
SHUM, PINS, PINT, PFOR, AR
GOA Says Will Not Forceably Repatriate Refugees

Cu053

ACTION: SecState WASHDC PRIORITY

Info: AmEmbassy ASUNCION
" BRASILIA
" CARACAS
" LA PAZ
" MONTEVIDEO
" SANTIAGO

[REDACTED] BUENOS AIRES 3914

Ref: A) Buenos Aires 3880, B) Buenos Aires 3727, C) Montevideo 2109

AMB
POL-3
POL/R
ECOM
USIS
USDAO
MILGP-2
LEGAT
SCIAT
RF
CHRON

1. In the face of growing international concern over dangers to political refugees in Argentina, the executive public information secretariat issued a communique June 10 declaring that "there is no danger, either for refugees or any other foreign resident in Argentina. No foreigner has or will be sent back to his own country for political or ideological reasons."

2. The communique was prompted by an Agence France Presse report in which UNHCR Director Gilbert Jaeger, a recent visitor to Buenos Aires, condemned yesterday's armed theft of refugee documents from the Argentine Catholic Commission

DRAFTED BY: POL:Y [REDACTED] DRAFTING DATE: 6/11/76 TEL. EXT. 121 CONTENTS AND CLASSIFICATION APPROVED BY: POL:WSSmith [REDACTED]

CLEARANCES:
POL/R: DLSmock (in substance) [REDACTED]
LEGAT: RWScherrer (in substance) [REDACTED]

Charge: MChaplin [REDACTED]

ARGENTINA PROJECT (S200000044)
U.S. DEPT. OF STATE, A/RPS/IPS
Margaret P. Grafeld, Director
☒ Release ☐ Excise ☐ Deny

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Exemption(s):
Declassify: ☐ In Part ☒ In Full
☒ Classify as ☐ Extend as ☐ Downgrade to
Date ☐ Declassify on ☐ Reason

CLASSIFICATION

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on Immigration (reftel A) and called on Argentine authorities to protect refugees.

3. The communique blames "the international campaign to discredit Argentina" for spreading tales that foreigners with either legal or illegal residence in Argentina are being sent back to their countries for reprisals. It suggests that "those persons or institutions that believe in this campaign provide residence quotas in their own countries for those persons whose continuing residence in Argentina is incompatible with internal peace and is a threat to national security."

4. At the same time, the Executive issued Decree No. 787, dated June 10, expelling 15 foreigners who were under arrest under the jurisdiction of the Executive "for carrying out activities against state security." The list included 15 Spanish names, but did not give their nationalities nor the specific charges, deportation date, or country of destination. As we reported in Para 4, reftel B, Argentine law authorizes deportation of foreigners engaged in activities that disrupt "social peace, national security, or public order." The same law was invoked recently to deport two Bolivian citizens to Caracas June 10.

5. Although Argentine law holds that a foreigner expelled from Argentina by decree must be sent back to his own country if he cannot obtain admission into a third country, the communique insists no foreigner will be foreceably

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repatriated for ideological or political reasons.

6. Comment. GOA is in same policy ~~XXX~~ dilemma expressed
i.e.
in reftel C, how to relieve the country of dangerous or
potentially dangerous foreigners while not betraying the
accepted international practice of respect for political
exiles.

CHAPLIN *WRS/*

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